**NEW DATA ON TYPHLOPID TYPE SPECIMENS FROM QUEENSLAND IN THE COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM FÜR NATURKUNDE, BERLIN.** *Memoirs of the Queensland Museum 42(2): 532. 1998:-* A monographic treatment by Waite (1918) has been the basis for most subsequent studies of Australian typhlopid snakes. However, prior to the initiation of Waite's studies on typhlopids in 1893, some 16 species had been proposed, based on Australian material (Cogger et al., 1983); Waite did not examine type specimens of 15 of these. I have examined the type specimens of Australian typhlopids held in the Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität, Berlin (ZMB) and I here present new data on type specimens of four species described by Peters (1867a,b, 1879) from Queensland material.

**Ramphotyphlops ligatus (Peters, 1879)**

*Typhlops ligatus* was described from a single specimen (ZMB6231) stated to be from Port Mackay, obtained from the Godeffroy Museum. The holotype (snout-vent length 228mm, tail length 13.5mm, body width 7.7mm) is in good condition, and has 24 midbody scales, 295 dorsal scales, 18 subcaudal scales, nasal cleft from the first supralabial, passing well onto the dorsum of the snout parallel with the rostral, rostral narrow, and snout profile rounded, slightly depressed. The dorsum is dark, and belly pale, with a moderately sharp, linear disjunction between the two shades. It is clearly conspecific with the species to which the name has been consistently applied (Storr, 1981).

**Ramphotyphlops unguirostris (Peters, 1867)**

*Typhlops* (*Onychocephalus*) *unguirostris* was described from two specimens, stated to be from Rockhampton, in the collection of C. Godeffroy (Peters, 1867a). The larger specimen (length 450mm, width 8.7mm) was noted to have 24 midbody scales, and the smaller specimen (length 135mm, width 3mm) had 18 midbody scales. McDowell (1974), nominated the larger as lectotype, and followed Boulenger (1889) in identifying the smaller specimen as *Ramphotyphlops affinis*. Neither author indicated that they had examined Peters' types. The two type specimens are registered as ZMB5884 (Cogger et al., 1983). Both are in good condition.

The lectotype (snout-vent length 432mm, tail length 6mm) is typical of the species currently recognised as *R. unguirostris*. It has 24 midbody scales, 543 dorsal scales, 9 subcaudal scales, and the nasal cleft from the first supralabial, extending just beyond the nostril. The rostral is broad, but has a noticeably narrowed posterior extremity, and in this respect does not agree with the illustration by Peters (1867). The paralectotype (snout-vent length 128mm, tail length 4mm) has 18 midbody scales, 423 dorsal scales, 16 subcaudal scales, the nasal cleft from the second supralabial, and is conspecific with the holotype of *Ramphotyphlops affinis*, confirming Boulenger's identification.

*Typhlops curvirostris* Peters, 1879 was described from a single specimen (ZMB7525), stated to be from Port Bowen, obtained from the Godeffroy Museum. The original registration entry for this specimen gives the locality as Bowen, Port Denison. The holotype is now in very poor condition, with the body breaking apart into soft fragile segments, held together only by the stratum corneum of the epidermis. I was unable to accurately measure the specimen, but it has snout-vent length approximately 292mm (Peters gives 300.5mm), 24 midbody scales, approximately 536 dorsal scales, 9 subcaudal scales, and the nasal cleft from the first supralabial. The protrusive, slightly hooked snout is similar to that of the lectotype of *unguirostris*, and the two types are certainly conspecific, supporting Waite's synonymy of the two species.

**Ramphotyphlops wiedii (Peters, 1867)**

*Typhlops wiedii* was described from material from Brisbane (Peters, 1867b). Only one set of measurements was provided in the type description (snout-vent length 241mm, tail length 4mm, body width 4.3mm). Only one specimen in the ZMB collection identified by this name has the locality Brisbane (ZMB5845), and is identified in the registers as the holotype. This specimen (snout-vent length 228mm, tail length 4mm, body width 4.0mm) is typical of the species to which the name has been subsequently applied (Waite, 1918; Shea, 1995), with 20 midbody scales, 400 dorsal scales, 10 subcaudal scales, nasal cleft from the second supralabial, extending well onto the head dorsum, and failing to completely divide the nasal. The snout is rounded in profile and slightly blunt when viewed from above.

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